Two Letters *to the Honourable* R---t H---y, *Esq*; *S--r to the Late* H----e *of* C---s, *or, an Account of the Debate in Town about Peace and War. Concluding with a* Catalogue *of* Engliſh Drugs.

SIR,

I Am not ſurprized to find you ſomewhat poſitive in your Opinion, with Relation to the preſent Debate, ſuffer me to tell you that it's hard for a Man that's ſhut up in the County, at this Seaſon of the Year, from Converſation, not to be (if I may ſpeak ſo) of his own Opinion, that is, of the Opinion he likes beſt, by abandoning himſelf to his own thoughts, he becomes a Prey to his Inclinations: One ſide of the Queſtion turns favourite, and then like all Favourites it's to late to inquire, whether it deſerve to be ſuch or not; but I am glad you are not yet ſo far gone: For tho your Reaſons you ſay are unanſwerable, you deſire to know impartially what is ſaid for, and againſt your Opinion; by which it ſeems you yield, that Reaſons, in appearance unanſwerable, for an Opinion ought not always to determine a Man to it, which I fear many do not advert to, ſoon enough in the preſent Debate, otherwiſe they would not be ſo poſitive in the beginning of the Week, but leave room for changing their Mind before the end of It, as it daily happens here to Gentlemen come from the Country: The truth is, this is a Matter of ſuch weight, and ſo much to be ſaid on both ſides, that it requires Time and mixed Converſation for a Man to have the whole Matter before him, that he may be able to judge of it; and even then he'll find, that he cannot come to a Reſolution, by pretending to anſwer the Reaſons of either ſide, but by weighing thoſe of both; which Method, ſince you agree to it, I ſhall follow, and try if thus You and I can come to be of a Mind: For if upon ballancing the whole Matter, we, who I hope have nothing before our Eyes, but the Merits of the Cauſe cannot agree: What is to be expected of Bodies of Men, who being in Parties, have different Views and Intereſts.

Sir, That I may execute what I've propoſed as impartially as I can, and to ſave my ſelf the trouble. I've have had a long Converſation with Mr. *P.* who is violently for a Peace; and when I ſhall have given you an Account of what paſt with him, I intend to wait on Mr. *R.* who is as eager for a War: and in my next writ what he ſays, I've pitched on warm Men, becauſe generally ſpeaking, they are more ſincere and communicative than others. Mr. *P.* tho he be warm in Diſcourſe & tenacious, has cool Thoughts, and is far from being raſh in reſolving; and tho he be full of Anger and Regret for many things, for which ſome miſtake him, as if he were not now for the preſent Conſtitution I aſſure you they wrong him; and People ſhould be cautious in uſing an Argument, which if it hold, will prove, that the Conſtitution, or the Government at leaſt, has but few Friends.

I told him frankly, that I came to know his Mind in the preſent Debate; he ſaid with all his heart, he was glad to know my Opinion, and to tell me his own.

For my Opinion, I told him I was for a Peace; but that I was afraid *a War would be found neceſſary*, and would gadly know from him, if it was not ſo. Oh, ſaid he, I underſtand you! you are not for a War; and a War is neceſſary, and what's neceſſary muſt be; it's in a Word, all that's to be ſaid; what's more, muſt be certain Reaſons to prove the Neceſſity, which no doubt but I had ready in my Pocket; for they were induſtriouſly ſpread all over the Town; and it's like I came to have an Anſwer, from him to them: but ſaid he, I'll both diſappoint and ſurprize you; for inſtead of taking your pretended Neceſſity to task; I'll but ſuppoſe it at preſent, then, ſaid I, you have yielded the Cauſe: No, no, replied he; if a Phyſician tells his Patient, that ſuch a thing is abſolutely neceſſary for his Recovery, which the Patient tells him is impoſſible to be had, is he nearer his Health for ſuch Advice? If I make it appear that a War in the Circumſtances this Nation is in, is impracticable, you your ſelf muſt withdraw your Neceſſity, and find Anſwers to your Proofs of it; or conclude, that the Nation

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it in a desperate state, that is under a Necessity of making a War, which it is in no Condition for: God forbid, said I, a War may be full of Difficulties, and yet not impracticable; and so, said he, their may be many strong Reasons for a War, and yet a War may be not necessary: Well (said I) pray let me have your Reasons against it: My Reasons (said he) are all taken from the Circumstances we are in.

In the first place, we are in pieces among our selves, and tho we were so, during the late War, It's the longer the worse, and there is something odd and singular in the Matter at present, that makes an essential difference, with respect to War; then own sort of Men had the whole Business in their Hands, and the other was made to submit. *Now in all appearance one Party is to reign at Court, and the other in Parliament*; so here's a sort of War at home; to which if we add a War abroad, what fine Work shall we make of it.

However (said he) to show you how far I am, I will suppose, that the common Danger (or what you please) shall either unite us all in a vigorous War, or make us acquiesce in it: But then I will ask you a plain Question: have we either Money or Credit, or Men or Conduct for a War; such a War as this must be, one in good earnest: No Men is more against halves then I am; and tho my Opinion be against a War I will join as heartily in it if it be resolved on, as any Man in the Nation; for I am convinc'd, that whatever is to be done that way, must be don by a short and vigorous War; but this is the Sum of all my Reasons against a War, that we are not sufficient for it, such as it ought to be. Upon this he pulled our of his Pocket a Paper, with a Computation of the present yearly Charge of this Nation to the Government, the Fleet, the Forces, and the Debts; to which was added the necessary Sums for making our Fleet a hundred Ships of War, and for fitting out or hiring two hundred other Ships; for increasing our Troops in *England*, to 20000 Men, and for sending beyond sea for Troops and Negotiation 5000000 *l.* yearly; all which he judged necessary in case of a War: And because the Money must be yearly advanc'd, and in order to this the Credit restor'd, there is in the Paper an Article of what he reckon'd sufficient for paying the Current Interest, at least of the present Deficiences, and of such as the Government could not well shun hereafter, by Allowances of high Interest, and the sinking of the Funds already given, or to be given, I cannot remember Particulars; and it's like that Account will be published: But upon the whole, supposing that the Charge of the War will not amount so high, and that Retrenchments and Rebatements may be made on some other Heads, still 'tis a frightful Sum, and I was struck with it: Which being observed by him: he took me by the Hand: My Friend (said he) you that are a great Warrior are not to be too soon discourged, if Surprizes are not fair in the War between us, I'll give you time to recollect your self: pray read over the Paper again; which I did; but when I begun to lessen some Articles; come (said he) I have too much advantage from the Cause, I need not use it: Take down half a Million, and how much remains? I told him still a prodigious Sum; but are not you satisfied (said he) or have you any thing to say? I owned to him I was confounded, and could only hope, that there was a mistake somewhere. Nay, (said he) if I to please you, yielded the Necessity of a War, it hard if you will not for your own War's sake, yield th Necessity of a Sum, which you can find no Objection to.

Here he stop'd a little, and then added; now that you hav thought on this, pray reflect a little with me how th Treaty of Partition hath turned the Spirit of the Spanish Nation against its natural bent, tho the Grandees only hav an Interest at stake, and that the Body of the People could feel no more but the Indignity done them of which Indignity the House of *Austria* was innocent, and yet thus it seems must on all of a sudden lose its Interest in that Monarchy, tho rooted there these 150 Years, and fortify'd with all the Enmities, Predjuices, Aversions, incompatable Maxims, Customs, Tempers, Fashions and Interests, with respect to the French that can possibly alienate one People for another. Now if nothing of this is to be depended on, when a People is only provok'd and irritated! What is to be depended on, or expected from People in the Case I have propos'd, but that like a Man drowning, they'll catch at a Feather, at any Shadow that will flatter them with hopes of an Issue. You know too, there is an Opinion at bottom with more Men than generally believ'd, which will spread as the War presses, and at last come above board, Opinion, I mean, of an Expedient at hand. I understand you, said I, can assure you, that the Parliment will not fail to provide against what you mean; but upon the whole matter, you have touch'd me in the sore part; I own my self true Servant of the Revolution, and tho I've Eyes to see that which I am sorry to see, and which is but too too visible; nothing can shake me from my Opinion of the Cause, or from my inclinations to it. It's a Noble Cause, the Cause of Truth and Liberty; and tho it may perish in the hands of the present Generation, it will find hands to revive and prosper in: If those who had the Honour to be its Chief Instruments, have proved unworthy of that Honour; and instead of suffering the Cause to justifie them (which only could do it) have by their bad Conduct, and crooked Desires, brought Infamy and Reproach upon it. If that, I say be the case, may then *the Works of Darkness come to Light, and that which is whisper'd in Corners be proclaimed upon the House tops, that the Cause may be aveng'd on such Men, and not suffer for them.* My concern is, That this Nation and all *Europe* may, I fear come to drink of a Cup that's none of their filling. And pardon me, to tell you still that I know no Remedy for this, but a vigorous War. And that no difficulties whatsoever are a sufficient Objection to it; but so far I own you have mov'd me, that I wish, with all my Soul, any other Remedy could be found out. Oh! said he, That's the Work of a Parliament. I promise you; that if they find none but War, I'll be of your Mind. And I promise you, said I, if they find any other, I, I'll be of yours. Thus we were parting, when one came in who ingag'd us again in a Discourse on the same subject, which will surprize you; but I can write no more at present.

I am,

Sir,

Second

SIR,

I Am informed, many of your Gentlemen in the Country, who see things only at a distance, flatter themselves that the Court is at the bottom of all this noise of the necessity of a War, that they would have an Army again, and so lay hold on the present Juncture, to blow people up with Fears and Jealousies of imaginary Dangers, for which you fondly hope there's no ground. May the Lord open your Eyes before it be too late; we hear in Town far from being influenc'd as you fancy, know not what to make of the Court, know not what they are for, nor what they are against, nor indeed whether they are asleep or awake, as you shall hear I interpos'd and told Mr. *P.* that he must pardon me if I mistook him, which my fondness to have him of my Mind, through occasion; for to tell the Truth, I could make nothing of all this, if not that he was angry with the Court, for not taking Measures in order to a War. Did I think, replied he that they really intened a War; I would never forgive them their losing the Winter, without entering into Measures for it. But by showing you, that such a Conduct in the Court is ridiculous and incredible. I think I have sufficiently made out, that they are not for a War, knowing it to be impracticable, and therefore have taken no care to prevent the losses, which after all, in case of a War had been for the most part inevitable and irreparable. But, said I, tho I were of your Mind, I should think the Government had done better to have made at least a shew of Resentment, and threatned a War to get the better Terms of Peace. My Friend, said Mr. *P.* the Treaty of Partition has put the Crown of *Spain* on a *French* Man's Head, tho it was made (at least according to the Letter of the Treaty) to prevent it. Shall we make another foolish Experiment, and by the Appearances of a War (which we neither intend, nor can make good) force the *Spaniards* to put *Flanders*, and their whole Strength in the Hands of the *French*; and when that is once done, instead of fighting at *Bredo*, the Frontier of the New Confederacy, we may come to have there another Treaty of Restoration. God forbid, said I: Nay, said Mr. *P.* I am as much against it as you are, and indeed more; for tho you mean otherwise, I fear you are taking the way to it. But pray tell me, said I, at this rate of the arguing, Had we not better have own'd the Duke of *Anjou* from the beginning? For our here not owning him, may fright the *Spaniards* to put *Flanders* in the Hands of the *French*, as it seems they will, unless there be more then Complement in their Offers. Look you, said he, I am so unlucky, that even when I agree with the Court upon the Matter, as I do now; yet I cannot approve of their manner, which usually is unintelligible, at least to me, who am a plain Man, and no Politician. For one would think that upon the acceptation of the Will, whether they were for a War or not; a superiour Genius never hesitates upon great Occasions, true Magnanimity is at a point in a moment, and values not Consequences; and indeed to do nothing in matters in which no time is to be lost, is to lose the time of doing any thing. If their Point was no War, what had they to do but to send immediately to their Partitioner, but for once a Table Man into *Spain* to own that King, to renew the Alliances, to encourage the Regency, and hold them firm to the true Intrests of their Country? Or if there were not room for this, to spare no Charge nor Industry to form a Faction upon that Foot. But if the point of the Court was War; why were not all measures imaginably imediately thought on and prosecuted in order to it: And in particular another able Man (if we have two) sent into *Germany* to concert Matters with the Emperour, and in competition with him to have made sure of the Elector of *Bavaria*, by giving him *Flanders*, or what he pleased, that with his 6000 Men, and the 12000 *Dutch* the best Towns might have been secured, and a stand made till Troops from *Holland* and *Germany* had come to their Assistance. This had look'd like doing business, and would have inspir'd Men with Hopes and Courage: But the doing of nothing one way nor t'other sinks Mens Spirits. And with what I have told you hath convinc'd me, and many others, that nothing is to be done by way of War; it looks as if there were a great Defect, or Secret, somewhere. You'll say, I know, that all depends upon a Parliament. And who can foresee what a Parliament will do? Whereas I never saw a Parliament that would not hear Reason, at least the strongest of Reasons, an evident Intrest when right Methods were taken with them. I'll suppose a Session open'd with a Speech, letting them know that *Flanders* was thus in our Hands, and that Vigour and Dispatch were necessary to keep it, and carry on the War; otherwise the Towns must be surrendred to the *French*:—Was there ever such a Monster of a Parliament in being, as in the Circumstances we are in, would have been for parting with those Towns? I own, said I, there's but too much Truth in what you say. However I still hope there's something doing under hand, and that we dissemble all till we compass it.

For to return to our Point, tho neither Resolution nor Judgment, as yet appears in the Conduct of the Court; I cannot after all bring my self to believe, but that they are for a War; Courts love Armies; the King is grown old in Camps: What other Views can they have? How can they think themselves safe? I know People talk oddly; but supposing what you please; What hold can they have of *France* that they can depend on? Were K. *James* himself here again, could he trust to *France*, if the present State of things were once acquiesc'd in? I don't conceive what's to be said to this, unless we will suppose, that God has abandon'd our Court to a Spirit of Infatuation. Shall I add here that which is more powerful in the Minds of Men of Spirit then all Considerations whatsoever, which is, that if they discover themselves capable of putting up the Indignity, and Affront done them, they will sink in the Opinion of all Mankind. It's now, said Mr. *S.* high time for me to speak; these are the very Arguments that stuck with me, and that I have been trudging about Town now this Month: But pray hear first that which I have to add to what Mr. *P.* has said, and which I intended to have told you long ago, but that he interrupted me. I beg your Pardon, said Mr. *P.* your concluding with Suspitions from plain Proofs warm'd me.

Mr. *S.*

Mr. *S.* went on, That the Reasons I had given, and s like, had long blinded him; and that he too, had b ter'd himself that the Court was in some great Design underhand, which they were careful to conceal. But now, said he, such and such Men, who as he named, declare against a War. And is it to be imagin'd, that they know not the Secret? And if they know it to be in favour of a War, How came they to delare against it? Their own, or Party-Interest may make them not for it: But if a War be intended, this should not make them against it openly, but rather endeavour underhand to prevent it, by rendering it more impracticable than it is, or they have made it. They are under the infatuation you have mention'd, if they do not see how Matters stand with them; and if they have brought it to this in time of Peace; sure they are wiser (tho I have no great Opinion of their Wisdom) than to venture on a War. But pray, said he, turning to Mr. *S.* Come, tell us here what you have to say to my Friend's Arguments which stuck so long with you? To the last, said Mr. *S.* which I reckon the strongest, I have this to say, That if at Court they judge a Peace to be for the Interest of *England*, nothing is more Heroical, than for a Prince to Sacrifice his resentments to the Good of his People; and tho it be hard even for Private Men, that are Men of spirit, to prefer their own Interest to their Resentments, and much less the Interest of others, and that we see few Princes capable of this; yet so it is in Fact, that His Majesty dissembled his sense of the insolent Rejoycings made by [illegible] se News of his Death at the [illegible] Contrivances of that Court [illegible] up a Peace as soon as it could be had; and [illegible] even humour'd the French, to the no small disgust of the Allies; judging, it seems, that absolutely necessary for the time. The other Reasons are strong against such under-hand Concerts with *France*, as are talk'd of, and what I don't believe; for how can that be? Tho I am sensible enough that there's more at Bottom then we shall be let into the knowledge of: But I may add one thing, that the Court's being for a Peace, is the way to perswade many People of the Truth of such Concerts, who otherwise would never have thought of them: It's commonly talk'd already, that the Court will not, may not, break with *France*. I remember, said Mr. *P.* That when the Negotiator return'd from sowing those Seeds of Jelowsie by his endearing Embassy, great notice was taken of his extravagant commending the *P* of *W.* as if he had been in Love with him. This, with some other Imprudences in him and his Tatling Crew, and Reasons of more weight not to be mention'd, have given a Jealousie, even to Men of Understanding, that he was a Partitioning for more Princes than one; the truth of which God knows, I don't. When People, said I, are angry and uneasy, it's usual to abandon themselves to Jealousies and Fears, for which there's often no more ground, than for trusting to Prophecies and Dreams, the other Refuge of weak Minds. How, said Mr. *P.* You are severe upon us. Pardon me, said I, No more than on my self, for I trust to you, that if I were once truly convinc'd that the Court is for a Peace, I would grow Jealous too; and yet Mr. *P.* you think this no good ground of Jealousy.

But now, turning to [illegible] you approve of those [illegible] tricks you have mentioned in the Court, in order to c pass a War, such as you think they would have. No, I, I am far from doing it, such methods never did, never will do in this Nation. We are an open down ri People, and will be dealt with accordingly. I wish w all my Heart the Court had immediately call'd the Par ment, and taken such measures as they had found the P liament ready to enter into. The Parliament would h by degrees (as the Scene opened) come into all that w necessary; and by this time of the day our Preparatio had been in a great forwardness. —— I am, and ever w of Opinion, said Mr *P.* that when there are no Designs bottom but such as can bear the Light, an Administrati may be carried on aboveboard, and that it is the true w with this Nation, where mysterious proceedings fill's M Heads with Jealousies, which if one rooted, ere not eas removed, but go on to a heighth, as we see it happens. Fo ever since the dark Conferences in *Flanders*, and the m ner of the Peace that came next, which was followed w the Dissolution of all Union, and good understanding wi the Confedarates, and with all the Appearances of t greatest Confidence, and closest Friendship imaginable wi *France*; when at the same time the Persecution of tho of our Religion in *France*, and elsewhere increased, wit our any visible Concern of ours, and both God and M seem'd to have abandon'd the Protestant Interest eve where; all thinking Men being struck with Astonishmen have trembled in the dread of a Catastrophe. Upon th out comes first the Partition, and now the Will; and t Lord prepare us for what may come next; we evident under some first Aspect that by prov'd too strong for in time of Peace. If this notwithstanding the Parliame in their Wisdom find a War to be the Remedy, I submi and so we parted.

A Catalogue *of* English Drugs *to cure the Body Politic or the Realm of* England.

Take of the L---y *H---e*,	——	The Head.
M----ue's	——	Braines and Head.
G---e's	——	Mouth.
F---e's	——	Throate.
B --ell's	——	Shoulders.
S---r's	——	Lungs.
H---t's	——	Liver.
H---e's	——	Spleen.
G---ll's	——	Gaul.
Se---r's	——	Paunch and Guts.
R---gh's	——	Privy Members.
J --y's	——	Breech.

Burn all these together near *Tyburn*, for a sweet sm ling Savour to the Nation; it will be a Restorative to t *Emperour*, a Cordial to the *States General*, a Gentle pu to the Prince of *Wales* and Duke of *Anjou*, the best Ba of Gilleard for the King of *England*, and the only Ra bain for the *French* King.

Note, Who had the 600000 *Pistoles* mention'd in t House.

FINIS.